



Kim M. Olthoff, MD is the Donald Guthrie Professor of Surgery in the Division of Transplantation at Penn, Chief of the Division of Transplant Surgery at Penn, and the Vice Chair for Faculty for Development. She attended the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine and completed a residency in general surgery at UCLA followed by a fellowship in transplantation and hepatobiliary surgery at the Dumont – UCLA Transplant Center and joined the faculty at Penn in 1995. Dr. Olthoff's clinical practice focuses on adult and pediatric liver transplantation, living donor liver transplantation, and hepatobiliary surgery. She co-directs the multidisciplinary hepatobiliary tumor conference and the Liver Tumor Clinic at the Penn Transplant Institute and is the Surgical Director of the Liver Transplant Program at CHOP.

Dr. Olthoff is a Past-President for the American Society of Transplant Surgery and was previously the Chair of the Liver-intestine Committee and on the Board of Directors of the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS).

Dr. Olthoff's research is focused on translational and clinical studies in liver regeneration, early allograft dysfunction, living donor transplantation, and transplant genomics. She has authored or coauthored over 250 original papers and book chapters.



Peter Abt, MD attended Brandeis University and received his medical degree at Dartmouth. He completed his general surgery residency at the University of Rochester in 2001 followed by a research and clinical fellowship in transplantation at the University of Pennsylvania. After fellowship he joined the faculty at the University of Rochester and was recruited back to Penn in 2007. Dr. Abt's clinical practice focuses on adult and pediatric liver, kidney, and pancreas transplantation as well as living kidney and liver donation. In addition, he has an active practice in dialysis access and laparoscopic liver surgery.

Dr. Abt's research interests primarily involve answering clinical questions related to transplantation through the use of national and regional data registries. Current investigations focus on understanding the benefit of kidney transplantation in non-renal transplant recipients and dual organ transplants. Ongoing translational studies address acute kidney injury in liver transplant recipients. Dr. Abt has authored or coauthored over 150 papers and book chapters, is an Associate Editor of the *American Journal of Transplantation*, and on the editorial boards of *Liver Transplantation* as well as *Clinical Transplantation*. Dr. Abt has served on various committees for the United Network of Organ Sharing (UNOS) as well as the American Society of Transplant Surgeons.



Samir Abu-Gazala, MD grew up in Jerusalem and graduated with honors from the Hebrew University Medical School in Jerusalem. He completed his general surgery residency at the Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem and the Icahn School of Medicine at The Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York. He completed his fellowship in abdominal organ transplantation at the University of Pennsylvania. Later, he returned to Jerusalem to join the liver and kidney transplant and HPB programs in Hadassah and later became the director of the liver transplant and HPB surgery. Dr Abu-Gazala joined the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania in 2021 in the Division of Transplantation.

Dr Abu-Gazala's surgical focus is liver and kidney transplantation, laproscopic HPB and laparoscopic donor nephrectomy. His research interest involves liver transplant immunology, liver cancer, and endocrine changes after bariatric surgery. He authored and co-authored over 30 publications and book chapters and serves as a reviewer in Transplantation and Surgery of Obesity and Related Disease.



Clyde F. Barker, MD is a native of Salt Lake City, a graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy, Cornell University and Cornell University Medical College. His entire subsequent career has been at the University of Pennsylvania. After internship, residency in surgery and fellowship in vascular surgery, he studied transplantation biology under Rupert Billingham as a Post Doctoral Fellow in the Department of Medical Genetics. In 1966, his first year on the faculty, he initiated the University's transplant program by performing a kidney transplant, now one of only a small number in the world that functioned for 48 years. From 1966-2001 he was Chief of Transplantation Surgery, from 1982-

2001, Chief of Vascular Surgery and from 1983-2001 John Rhea Barton Professor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery.

Dr. Barker's research interests have been primarily in transplantation, especially transplantation of the kidney, pancreas and isolated pancreatic islets. His research was continuously funded for over twenty-five years by grants from the National Institutes of Health, including an NIH Merit Award from 1987 to 1995. Dr. Barker has published more than 430 scientific papers and served on 12 editorial boards.

Dr. Barker's scientific memberships include the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, the American College of Surgeons, The Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, the Association of American Physicians, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society of which he is now President. He has been President of the American Society of Transplantation Surgeons, the United Network for Organ Sharing, the Halsted Society, the U.S. Chapter of the International Society of Surgery and the American Surgical Association. He has served as visiting professor at 100 different universities and is an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England and of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. Dr. Barker is the recipient of several lifetime achievement awards, including the Roche Pioneer Award of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, the Sheen Award of

the American College of Surgeons, the Medallion for Scientific Achievement of the American Surgical Association, the Jonathan Rhoads Gold Medal of the American Philosophical Society and the Distinguished Graduate Award of the School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania. He has been designated the 2009 recipient of the Thomas E. Starzl Prize in Transplantation and Immunology and the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Society of University Surgeons, and in 2010 he was awarded the Medawar Prize of the International Transplant Society.



Kyle R. Jackson, MD, PhD received his medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He completed his general surgery residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital, where he simultaneously earned a PhD in Clinical Investigation from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. He completed his abdominal transplant surgery fellowship at Emory University Hospital and joined the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania in 2024. His clinical practice focuses on adult and pediatric kidney transplantation, pancreas transplantation, and laparoscopic kidney donation.

Dr. Jackson is also a Senior Scholar at the Penn Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics. His primary research interest is in characterizing the impact of climate change and environmental pollutants on human health, with a particular focus on healthcare utilization and disease burden. His clinical practice has also led to a special interest in understanding how these environmental factors impact transplant patients, who are uniquely susceptible to these effects due to the profound immunomodulation necessary to facilitate successful transplantation as well as highly prevalent place-based vulnerabilities. He also uses national registry and claims-based datasets to solve clinically relevant problems in solid organ transplantation - such as identifying optimal transplant strategies for the immunologically high-risk, quantifying and improving equity and access to organ transplantation, and characterizing the clinical and financial impact of post-transplant complications.

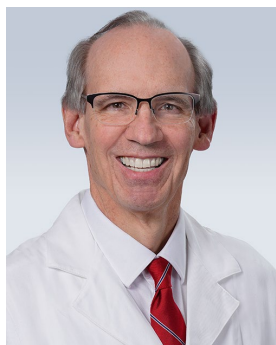
Dr. Jackson has published over 50 manuscripts and given over 20 national and international talks. The quality of his research has been recognized by national and international awards from the American Transplant Congress, the American Association for the Study of Liver Disease, and the European Society of Organ Transplantation. He has received direct research support as a Principal Investigator from both foundational and federal sources, such as the NIH and the Doris Duke Foundation. He has also served as a fellow on the editorial board of the *American Journal of Transplantation*, and currently sits on the Transplant Informatics Workgroup of the American Society of Transplantation KPCOP.



Matthew Levine, MD, PhD Matthew Levine, MD, PhD attended Brown University, followed by a combined MD/PhD at Yale University, completing his PhD in immunobiology in the laboratory of Charles Janeway Jr., with work focusing on the discovery of positive selection events in the peripheral development of B cells. He then went on to general surgery residency at the Massachusetts General Hospital and a fellowship in abdominal organ transplantation at the University of California, San Francisco. He joined the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania in 2009. Dr. Levine is Surgical Director of the Transplant Center at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Director of the Penn Multiorgan Transplant Surgery Fellowship. He is clinically active in liver and kidney transplantation in adults and children, pancreas transplantation, laparoscopic/robotic kidney donation, and is medical director of the limb transplantation (VCA) program at Penn.

Dr. Levine's basic science research is focused on defining the role that histone deacetylases (HDACs) and heat shock proteins (hsps) play in tolerance of renal ischemia-reperfusion as well as investigation that estrogens play in renal ischemia tolerance. Both of these projects have been supported by the NIH/NIDDK. This work has demonstrated significant renal function protection via HDAC inhibition by drug and by gene knockout. Additional directions of this work are defining the role that HDACs play in liver ischemia reperfusion injury and acetaminophen toxicity. Dr. Levine has initiated a Perioperative Estrogen in Renal Transplantation (PERT) clinical trial as an offshoot of these basic science efforts. Dr. Levine has collaborated with Wayne Hancock and Scott Levin of the Orthopedics program on several limb transplant related projects mitigating organ rejection and ischemia that have been funded by the Department of Defense. He is active in clinical research as well, with projects pertaining to liver transplantation for hepatocellular carcinoma and efficacy and utility of renal transplantation in certain clinical scenarios, particularly pediatric transplantation. He was named a "Rising Star in Transplantation" by the ASTS in 2018. He is a member of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons and is a councilor of its executive board as well as sitting on the ASTS Foundation Board and serves on the National Kidney Foundation Transplant Advisory Committee and on the NCCN Hepatobiliary Cancers panel. He is a deputy editor for the American Journal of Transplantation, Associate Editor for Current Opinion in Organ Transplantation, and an associate editor of Liver Transplantation.

PENN TRANSPLANT SURGERY FACULTY



After 16 years as Chief of the Transplant Surgery Division at Mass General Hospital, **James F. Markmann MD, PhD** rejoined Penn in December of 2023 as the VP Transplant Institute and VC Transplant in the Department of Surgery at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. He specializes in liver, kidney, pancreas, and islet transplantation. Dr. Markmann completed his MD, PhD in Immunology, and surgical residency training at The University of Pennsylvania under Chairman Clyde F. Barker, after which he did a Transplant Surgery Fellowship at the University of California Los Angeles to specialize in liver transplantation. He is active in numerous societies, editorial boards and organizations and is Past President of the International Pancreas and Islet Transplant Association and will become President for the American Society of Transplant Surgeons in August of 2025. His research interests include immune tolerance by regulatory B cells, ex vivo organ perfusion, stem cell derived islet cell transplantation, immune tolerance, and xenotransplantation. He has published over 430 scientific papers over the last 30 years and has held continuous NIH funding for over 20 years.



Ali Naji, MD, PhD completed his clinical residency and fellowship training in general, vascular and transplantation surgery at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where he also obtained his PhD in Immunology. He joined the faculty at Penn in 1981 and is currently the J. William White Professor of Surgery. He is the Director of the Penn Islet Transplantation Program, and Associate Director of the Institute for Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

Dr. Naji has had continuous NIH funding during his faculty tenure at Penn whose basic research efforts have focused on the immunobiology of transplantation and immune pathogenesis of autoimmune diabetes. His investigations were the first to demonstrate the critical role of recurrent anti-beta cell autoimmunity as a basis for the failure of islet transplantation for treatment of Type 1 diabetes mellitus (T1D). Most recently, his group's efforts have focused on the role of B lymphocytes in the pathogenesis of T1D and organ transplant rejection demonstrating the requisite role of B lymphocytes as antigen presenting cells in the pathogenesis of islet inflammation and immunologic rejection. Translation of his basic research in islet transplantation studies have demonstrated the efficacy of B lymphocyte targeting for the induction of islet allograft tolerance in diabetic non-human primates. Dr. Naji and his group are investigating the clinical efficacy of B lymphocyte directed immunotherapy as part of the cooperative NIH sponsored islet transplantation consortium. He has received numerous awards for his work in diabetes, and has served as chair of the Medical Science Advisory Board of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation

Dr. Naji has published over 200 peer-reviewed manuscripts and served on numerous NIH study sections including Surgery/Anesthesia/ Trauma, Immunological Sciences and Transplantation/ Tolerance/Tumor Immunology. He is an associate editor for the journals Transplantation, Diabetes and Transplantation Immunology.

PENN TRANSPLANT SURGERY FACULTY



Dr. Parsons is an Associate Professor of Surgery at the Penn Transplant Institute at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. Over the past 15 years his research has focused on strategies to improve access to and outcomes after kidney, pancreas, and allo-/auto- islet transplantation. His basic science research investigates primarily humoral immunity, B-cell homeostasis, and transplant tolerance induction, as well as strategies to deplete plasma cells in pre-sensitized hosts. His passion of B-cell immunobiology has translated well into his current clinical investigations which are centered around novel desensitization strategies for highly sensitized candidates. His other clinical investigations involve optimizing patient readiness for transplantation, whether related to obesity, frailty, donor-related opportunities, or structural challenges that face disadvantaged patients. He serves as the Principal Investigator at Penn for several multi-center clinical trials and is the surgical director of kidney and pancreas transplantation at the Penn Transplant Institute. He strives for administrative, academic, and clinical excellence to improve outcomes for all patients.



Abraham Shaked, MD, PhD is the Eldridge L. Eliason professor of Surgery, and the Executive Director of the Penn Transplant Institute at the University of Pennsylvania. He completed his residency at Mount Sinai in New York and continued his clinical and scientific work at UCLA in Los Angeles. Dr. Shaked was recruited to direct the liver transplant program at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP) and the Children Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) in 1995. He is the past Chief of the Transplant Division, and currently the Director of the Penn Transplant Institute (PTI); a large center that provides the infrastructure for all thoracic, abdominal, and VCA clinical transplantation, performing over 500 solid organ transplants per year. Dr. Shaked is a past president of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons.

Dr. Shaked research interests are focused on investigating donor/recipient genetic interactions, and exploring omics biomarkers, in the setting of alloimmune activation, diagnosis of rejection, management of immunosuppression, and the long-term well-being of the recipient. We have established extensive biobank, storing donor and recipient specimens, that is linked to an electronic clinical database. Assayed and clinical data are shared with local and national investigators, resulting in productive scientific studies that contributing to better understanding of transplantation immunology, and improving patient management.



Dr. Fred Vyas received his MBBS and post graduate training in General Surgery at Medical College Baroda, Vadodara, India. After completing his training, he joined Christian Medical College (CMC) in Vellore, India as a faculty in the department of General Surgery before transitioning to HPB Surgery. He completed his fellowship in Transplant Surgery at the Hospital of University of Pennsylvania and an additional pediatric and multi-visceral transplant at fellowship at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

Owing to service obligations with government of India and CMC Vellore, on completion of fellowship, Dr. Vyas returned back to CMC Vellore in Department of HPB Surgery and Liver Transplantation and assumed leadership of the department in December 2018, where he was responsible for expanding the liver transplant program by establishing the living donor and pediatric transplant programs, and was able to position the Department of HPB Surgery and Liver Transplantation as a Center of Excellence in India.

His areas of interest include liver transplantation, living donor liver transplants and pediatric transplantation as well as liver surgery and operations for hilar cholangiocarcinoma. He has authored or co-authored over 38 publications.